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## INTIMATION.

NOTICE  
GARDEN SEEDS  
SEASON 1886.  
Most of our  
FLOWERS  
AND  
VEGETABLE SEEDS  
are now ready for delivery.

A Second Shipment is expected by early  
September.

SPECIALITY.  
PANSY SEEDS.  
Packets of Six named Varieties,  
FINE SELECTED SEEDS.  
Price \$1.

A. S. WATSON & CO.,  
LIMITEDE.  
Hongkong, 10th September, 1886.

the respectable Chinese population fully approves of the action taken by the Government, as they hold that the persons evicted belong to a class whom it is by no means desirable to encourage in the colony. Respectable hard working squatters ought to be welcomed by the Government where there is room for them—and regulations might be framed that only respectable people would care to accept the conditions—but a semi-criminal settlement such as that at Lapsapwan ought not to have been tolerated even for the time it was. We fully concur with the Acting Governor when he says that these people "are entitled to no compensation, and it would be a most impolitic action to grant them any compensation or merciencia. It would inevitably encourage swarms of their countrymen to come over from Kwangtung and do as they have done, settle down on Crown land without permission, and then, when either Government or the foreigner, but should the Provincial Authorities contract for such purchases of their own responsibility, they must pay out of their own treasury.

The *Courier* says that about sixty distinguished persons sat down to a dinner given by the departing Taotai Tang, at the Hotel des Colonies, Shanghai, on the 16th inst. Among these present were the Consul-General and Consuls and Vice-Consuls, the Italian and Spanish Ministers, and the Representative of the French Concession, and numbers of native officials, among whom were the new Taotai King, and ex-Taotai Shao. The repast was of a splendid kind, and champagne flowed freely.

Some time ago (says the *Daily News*) we mentioned that a Customs tender called the *Fu Heng* had been launched at Pagoa Anchorage. This craft recently went on her trial trip from the Anchorage to the Min Roof and back. A number of guests were invited, and most of them enjoyed themselves, though there was something seen on board which was not altogether to the taste of the passengers. Her draught being 5 ft. forward and 5 ft. aft. The craft was in charge of Captain Parkhill, who was ably assisted by Mr. Segar.

The *Mercury* says—There has been launched from Fuchow a small building yard, Hangchow, steam fire boat, built to the order of Captain Wigton. She is a wooden screw boat of about 150 tons register. Her dimensions are as follows—length over all 90 feet, beam 15 feet, draught about 6 feet. The boat is to ply between Shanghai and Woosung. Captain Wigton, as generally known, owns the fire boat.

For some years past has been burning between Shanghai and Woosung, Captain Wigton will now have boats leaving Shanghai for Woosung every day, one in the morning, and in the afternoon—a system which ought to prove of great convenience to the public.

The proposition made by His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales that the Queen's Jubilee Memorial should take the form of a Colonial and Indian Museum or Institute is one that should recommend itself to the approval of Her Majesty's subjects in all parts of her widely scattered Empire. The Exhibition has proved such a marked success, and is calculated to have such important effects in educating the people of the United Kingdom to the extent, resources, and wealth of India and the Colonies, and has enlightened them so much with regard to the various races who claim the protection of the union jack, that it is eminently desirable it should take a permanent form, and thus admit of the educating process being continued until even the masses will know something of the production and people of such remote dependencies as Cyprus, Mauritius, Hongkong, Trinidad, the Falklands, and Fiji. The knowledge acquired from school geographies is very apt to fade from the mind, but practical illustrations like those afforded by the Exhibition now open in London serve to crystallize this knowledge and render it available in mature life. The interest excited, too, in the more distant portions of the empire tends to beget a warmer feeling between the old and the new, the Great and the Greater Britain. The establishment therefore of a permanent Colonial and Indian Institution in London deserves earnest support, alike as a great educational and commercial agency and as one more cord whereby to strengthen the bonds which bind British subjects to the parent stem.

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DEATH  
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## The Daily Press.

HONGKONG, SEPTEMBER 22ND, 1886.

MR. MACEWEN'S crusade against the Government on behalf of the squatters at Lapsapwan has caused no little surprise in the colony. The camp was a nest of lawless characters, and the only fault that can reasonably be found with the authorities in the matter is that they were too indulgent. Indeed, the squatters might almost be excused if they had come to believe that Government warnings and threats meant nothing, and would never be enforced. If any similar case should arise in the future it would be advisable for the Government, in addition to notifying the people by word of mouth, to post a written proclamation in the camp, bearing the proper official seal. The notice given should then be fully executed on the day named, instead of allowing repeated and indefinite extensions of time. As to the character of the population recently gathered together at Lapsapwan, it is clearly shown in the correspondence laid on the Council table. The Police report that while the women of the village appeared to work hard feeding pigs, the greater number of the men wandered about the city in search of plunder, and one particular gang of robbers were living in the village for about nine months, until some of them were arrested. The Afforestation Department also report that great damage has been done to the plantations by the depredation of the squatters. It appears, further, that their camp was in a most insanitary condition, and that they were keeping pigs without licences, for which they were liable to prosecution. On every ground, therefore, their removal was desirable in the public interest. No injustice can be alleged in the matter, seeing that the occupants of the camp do not belong to the colony, but are *Hakkas* from the mainland, who simply availed of the opportunity of establishing themselves in a locality where they thought they could carry on their combined pursuits of pig breeding and robbery with impunity from taxation and supervision. One man, it appears, carried on the manufacture of tooth powder, a business which ought certainly to enable him to pay rates on the same scale as residents generally.

Pig-breeding is a useful industry, not to be discouraged where it can be carried on under suitable conditions. It is desirable also that the whole of the small area of cultivable land there is in the colony should be worked. It does not follow, however, that squatters are to be allowed to flock into the colony and settle wherever they like with freedom to ignore the requirements of the law as to licences, etc. On the contrary, seeing that they come from a class which by reason of its poverty is likely to furnish a considerable proportion of criminals, a strict supervision should be maintained over them. As to the squatters at Lapsapwan, we believe

On our fourth page will be found an interesting and well-written account of an ascent of Asama-yama, a great volcano in Japan, by H. S. B. These initials, if we mistake not, belong to Colonel Palmer, R.E., who wrote a facsimile.

A series of aquatic sports in connection with the Northamptonshire Regiment will be held at the Bath House of the Victoria's Recreation Club on Saturday afternoon. Among the events is a four-lengths handicap open to members of the Club for prizes given by Lieut. Colonel Anderson and the officers of the Regiment.

Japan intends to have twenty-seven men-of-war ready for service before 1890. A despatch has been received in Yokohama from France announcing the result of the trial trip of the *Ushio*, which vessel has been just completed. She gave great satisfaction as regards speed, having attained 18 knots per hour, the engines indicating 7,000 horse-power.

*L'Echo de Shanghaï* says—We are happy to inform our readers that the publication of this journal will not be suspended. The sympathy shown us and the promise of substantial aid given induced us to continue the work for the success of which we have struggled for the last seven years. We hope that our efforts and our perseverance will soon bear fruit.

Amateur gardeners may be interested in the following, from the *Daily News* of the 18th inst.—We received yesterday a very fine apple grown in Chetoo from American trees imported by Mr. George W. Brown. The apple weighed three-quarters of a pound, and was one of several that have been sent down. We understand that other kinds of fruits brought from America have also been successfully cultivated in Chetoo. Our contemporary ought to be fully satisfied that he was giving an original work.

The French gunboat *Souffre* left Shanghai on the 16th instant for France, via coast ports and Hongkong.

The *Hiroko* states that the Board of Revenue has issued a notification, that should the French and other Authorities wish to purchase foreign ships, arms, and munitions of war in future, they must obtain the sanction of the said Board and the Naval Department before making any contract with the foreigners, but should the Provincial Authorities contract for such purchases of their own responsibility, they must pay out of their own treasury.

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charge of fighting and creating a disturbance on the 20th instant, and collecting a great crowd around them. They were fined fifty cents each.

## DRUNK AND INCAPABLE.

John Morrison, of Calcutta, seaman unemployed, was fined fifty cents for being drunk and incapable in the street on the night of the 20th instant.

## ROGUE AND VAGABOND.

James Swaine, of Ireland, seaman unemployed, was for the third time before this Court, and this time charged with wandering abroad and lodge in the open air having no visible means of subsistence or place of abode, and not being able to give a good account of himself. He admitted the charge and was sentenced to three months' hard labour.

## DISORDERLY CONDUCT.

Francis Buchanan, seaman unemployed, was charged by Mr. A. Moir, superintendent of the Sailor's Home, with disorderly behaviour and creating a disturbance in the Home on the 21st instant.

Complainant said that within the last four or five days his defendant had come into the Home between 11 and 12 o'clock at night and raising a disturbance, by challenging the other boarders to fight. At last complainant was obliged to give him in charge.

## SENTENCED TO SEVEN DAYS' HARD LABOUR.

## BREAK OF OPIUM ORDINANCE.

Chu Ho Hing, a hawk, was charged by Liang Sun Hing, excise officer, with being in possession of prepared opium not having a valid certificate from the Farmer, on the 20th instant.

P.C. Wong stated that he went to No. 3, Western Market, and found that there was no opium dress, one pipe, and one opium lamp.

Liang Sun Hing stated that he had bought twenty cents' worth of opium from defendant.

Fined \$5, opium and utensils confiscated.

## CORRESPONDENCE.

(We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our Correspondents.)

## THE INTERPRETATION IN THE HONGKONG PUBLIC COURTS.

## TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR.—In your article in this morning's paper with regard to the recent discussion in the Hongkong Legislative Council on the above subject, one somewhat important point seems to me to have been lost sight of. The Acting Attorney-General, in his speech, referred to the fact that the Hon. A. F. MacKenzie, in his opinion, had given the interpretation of the Police Courts, as far as he knew, was perfectly satisfactory. This cannot be correct, and in making such a statement this official must have been misled by an extremely treacherous memory. Only a few weeks ago one of the interpreters of the Police Court was not only discharged from his post, but he was deported from the colony as a person who did not fit into his place and good service. Surely his dismissal cannot have been without the cognizance of the Acting Attorney-General. What was he dismissed for? Because it was found he had unfairly treated to the preceding magistrate, Mr. MacKenzie, the nature of a certain secret society. His answer to that question shows that the man who was charged in the case was connected in some way with the Chinese.

In July, in the Procurer's Court, Mr. G. C. Gresham, "The Discovery of the false interpretation was not made through the hasty knowledge of anyone who was present in this court at the time, but through a subsequent communication made to the Bench when it was too late to recall what had been done in the case in question. Private investigations then led to the discovery that this interpreter was a head man in this secret society, at which he had misinformed the Bench, and that his answer was given to shield the men of his own society.

How was it that the learned Attorney-General lost sight of this case when he made the reply he did to the mover of the resolution? He surely must have done so, or he never would have returned the answer he did. Ought not such a startling error to be referred to the district of the Chinese instead of the Government Department in the colony? Can we imagine that other Governmental officials confidently say that there are no more men like the late Chin Chew interpreter in the same department, or in the Supreme Court, or in any other department of the Government? Is it not probable, where one case like that comes to light, that there may be others which have not been unearthed? Let us alone to the inquiry that there is a vast deal more behind than has yet come forward, and that the constitution of the legal departments in this colony renders the administration of justice unsafe. There is but too much reason to fear that many a failure or distortion of justice has occurred in the law courts of this colony owing to defective if not corrupt interpretation.—I am, Sir, &c.

## JUSTITIA.

## MR. PETER MAGRAN AND CONSULANT REPORTS.

Mr. Peter Magrane writes as follows in his despatch dated September 18th, 1886:—Our China Consuls and the Coal Merchants of Lancashire are again at loggerheads. According to the former the moral obligation of the British manufacturer and merchant continues beyond bannings, beyond hops of redemption. According to the latter—“tis a sorry bird that ‘flies its nest.” In the eyes of the former the former is the native and the concentrated essence of the British Empire. The Lancashire shires forth stalwart and bright to the mental vision of the latter. So at present stands the controversy; and a very pretty controversy it is, notwithstanding that the arguments on either side are not new. Indeed, they are becoming very tiresome their reiteration.

But on this occasion the Formosan Council, by means of six native towns, rough, homely, and uncouth, have come along to interfere where it could and would most glibly be furnished, the officers might find that a question has seldom less than two sides, and so be led to recognize the gross injustice done to the other side by their production of the one only to support their annual stories. It is not said nor is it even hinted that any suppression has ever taken place, but the reports of the Chinese Consul and the Lancashire Consul are equally well founded, though short of the whole truth, and often have been so. The Chinese have been abused, untested, and to business man, food for ridicule. Mr. Spence, for instance, trotted out No. 6 sample as a “colourable imitation of P.M.C. &c.” or some other well known American Sheeting.” A Chinese homespun in great demand, called “American,” because it is said to be made from America, from the point of view of the Chinese, is synonymous with “excellent.” And you say Sir, why should England, so long as she holds most honorable position in the show, envy America her place amongst the excellent of the earth? If it is the fault of England that in certain districts of China her products are not preferred? And shall her sons repine knowing that for one that has been supplied with the best, there is that for one textile furnished by America, which is “excellent” they furnish their done, all high up in the “excellent” list in their respective regions of consumption. And, again, how grand, how bleaching is Mr. Spence’s characterization of the Lancashire textile—“rubbish.” Did he know, before Mr. Fielden informed him, had he forgotten the fact, that “considerable quantities of Lancashire goods are exported in the form of cotton?” or that “all the cotton cloth—is essential to sale?” and that such are meant, factored because of the want there is for them?—Truly, “where ignorance is bliss,” etc. Oh Donald! Donald! And you a Scotchman free north of Aherlow awa’; To whaless are ye yet gay clear of the wood? Odds man, folks here are just saying that “fules ar’ bairns should never see the like o’ cotton.” I’m no sure that they are far wrong—whatever.

The Home Export of Plain Cottons to all China for August was 29,000,000 lbs., viz. 5,000,000 to Hongkong and 24,000,000 to Shanghai, according to Renter, and the total for the past eight months shows a decrease of 63,000,000 yards, or 17 per cent., as compared with the figure of the corresponding period of last year. As to raw cotton, I’m no sure that they have been a most unsatisfactory week. Business in private has been all but impulsive, and Exchange has broken clean away from them again. The situation is not free from anxiety. Nor have holders now much comfort of the promises

of liberal clearances in a day or two given by the few dealers who have seen since the close of settling. The reason of an absence of buyers is that the market is still far from the latest's ear, in whose heat faith and hope are strained hard to join issue.

Demand has been very slack, and the dulness is not explained, nor fully accounted for by the space of time that usually lapses between the issue of the settlement and the receipt of advices from the exports. At our principal depots, however, the trade is progressing fairly and steadily, and the prices of certain articles are to be expected. China has got rid of much of her superfluous water, and so has Manchuria, but both have suffered grievously, and at Newchow, the foreign residents, foreseeing the distress which must increase as the winter advances, have appointed a committee of relief, to which I think that, even in these hard times, there will be a generous response to their appeal for contributions.

## TIEN TSIN.

11th September.

We have been without steamer for three days owing, it is supposed to the northward bound being detained by gales at Choo. The Board of Trade Minister, M. Constant, and suite left for Peking on the 8th; relations with Li Hung-chang said to be of the most amicable character. The Minister for Holland left yesterday for the capital. The German Minister remains here having important business to transact with the Viceroy. The foreign representatives are gradually accepting the fact that the Chinese Foreign Office is Tung-shau is now quite navigable again and globe-trotters have no difficulty in getting about. A month ago boats took eight days to go up. The floods are slowly subsiding hereabouts. Some presentations were undoubtedly taken by the much-maligned mandarins, but they took the form of flooding the left bank of the river to save the right. Two years ago the two other banks were the right, and the Tung-shau (left) and Tung-ho (right) embankments) were flooded to save the salt houses.—*Telegraph News Correspondent.*

11th September.

His Excellency Mr. von Brandt paid another visit to Li Hung-chang on 9 a.m. to-day. Mr. von Brandt and Mr. Dotting will be entertained at dinner by Li Hung-chang at the Admiralty Building to-night, and Yang Tsu-to, Chief Director of the Military Academy, will be present.

The German Transmarine Bank is the chief topic of the day here, now that Brügel's design to found a bank is out. But the Chinese are not to be trifled with.

Yesterday the Customs seized 13 boxes, mostly containing prepared opium belonging to a high official. They arrived by the El Dorado, and were destined for Peking.

13th September.

H. E. Kung Tang, the new Commissioner of the Revenue, presented his credentials to the Police Courts, a fact which, as far as he knew, was perfectly satisfactory. This cannot be correct, and in making such a statement this official must have been misled by an extremely treacherous memory. Only a few weeks ago one of the interpreters of the Police Court was not only discharged from his post, but he was deported from the colony as a person who did not fit into his place and good service. Surely his dismissal cannot have been without the cognizance of the Acting Attorney-General. What was he dismissed for? Because it was found he had unfairly treated to the preceding magistrate, Mr. MacKenzie, the nature of a certain secret society. His answer to that question shows that the man who was charged in the case was connected in some way with the Chinese.

In July, in the Procurer's Court, Mr. Gresham, “The Discovery of the false interpretation was not made through the hasty knowledge of anyone who was present in this court at the time, but through a subsequent communication made to the Bench when it was too late to recall what had been done in the case in question. Private investigations then led to the discovery that this interpreter was a head man in this secret society, at which he had misinformed the Bench, and that his answer was given to shield the men of his own society.

How was it that the learned Attorney-General lost sight of this case when he made the reply he did to the mover of the resolution? He surely must have done so, or he never would have returned the answer he did. Ought not such a startling error to be referred to the district of the Chinese instead of the Government Department in the colony? Can we imagine that other Governmental officials confidently say that there are no more men like the late Chin Chew interpreter in the same department, or in the Supreme Court, or in any other department of the Government? Is it not probable, where one case like that comes to light, that there may be others which have not been unearthed? Let us alone to the inquiry that there is a vast deal more behind than has yet come forward, and that the constitution of the legal departments in this colony renders the administration of justice unsafe. There is but too much reason to fear that many a failure or distortion of justice has occurred in the law courts of this colony owing to defective if not corrupt interpretation.—I am, Sir, &c.

## CHEFOO.

15th September.

The frigate *Bismarck*, Captain Kuhn, flagship of the German Flying Squadron, with Rear-Admiral Radon on board, arrived here yesterday. The Port Arthur, where he had been for a month, was still in sight. The *Bismarck* has been so far satisfactorily satisfied that he has no doubt that he will be soon at Peking. The *Bismarck* is in favour of the Chinese. But will the Board of Revenue approve of it?—Mercury Correspondent.

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COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

TUESDAY, 21st September.

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